

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing;

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal; and

a viewer capable of receiving data, wherein the viewer, comprises:

a decryptor that decrypts the data signal,

a display that displays pages of the electronic book,

a book memory that stores the electronic book, and

a control module that controls viewing of the electronic book,

wherein the receiver module, the processor, the transmitter, and the memory are located at a library unit, and the apparatus further comprises an interface between the library unit and the viewer.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 4, wherein the library unit further comprises an external interface to an external receiver, the external receiver receiving the data signal, the external interface transmitting the data signal to the library unit.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the external receiver is a television receiver.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the external receiver is a radio receiver.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the external receiver is a spread spectrum receiver.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the external receiver is a modem.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the receiver module, the processor, the transmitter and the memory are contained in a set top terminal operably connected to a television, and wherein the receiver module receives broadcast television program signals, the data signal multiplexed with the television program signals, the apparatus further comprising a demultiplexer to demultiplex the data signal and the television program signals.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the receiver module, the transmitter, the memory and the processor are contained on a smart card incorporated into a digital television, and wherein the receiver module receives broadcast television program signals, the data signal multiplexed with the television program signals, the apparatus further comprising a demultiplexer to demultiplex the data signal and the television program signals.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the receiver module, the processor, the transmitter, and the memory are contained on a smart card incorporated into a digital television, and wherein the digital television comprises a receiver that receives broadcast television program signals.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the digital television further comprises a demultiplexer that demultiplexes the received digital broadcast television program signals and the data signal.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the receiver module, the processor, the transmitter, and the memory are incorporated into a personal computer.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the personal computer further comprises a connector that couples the personal computer to a digital television, the digit television comprising a second receiver that receives the digital broadcast television program signals and the data signal, and wherein the receiver module receives the local authorization code and the data signal and the personal computer sends the data signal and the local authorization code to decrypt the data signal.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the connector is one of a radio frequency connector, an infra red connector and a wired connector.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the wired connector comprises RS-232 connections and an RS-232 cable.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the transmitter comprises one of a telephone modem, a cable modem, a wireless modem, ~~an asymmetric digital subscriber line (ADSL) connector~~, an integrated services digital network (ISDN) connector, ~~T1 and T3 lines~~, a fiber optic connector, a local area net (LAN) connector and a satellite antenna connector.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing;

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal; and

an interface that receives the data signal and the authorization code, wherein the interface comprises one of a radio frequency connector, a telephone modem, a cable modem, a wireless modem, ~~an asymmetric digital subscriber line connector~~, an integrated digital services network connector, ~~T1 and T3 lines~~, a fiber optic connector, and a local area net connector and a satellite antenna connector.

19. (Previously Presented) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the data signal includes electronic book data, wherein the processor generates an electronic book menu based on the received electronic book data, and wherein the apparatus further comprises a remote control, the remote control sending commands to scroll the electronic book menu and to select a desired electronic book for ordering.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the remote control is one of a wired control, an infra red control, and a radio frequency control, ~~and a laser control.~~

21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the electronic books are provided using a cable television network.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the electronic books are provided via a ~~using over-the-air~~ broadcast.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the ~~over-the-air~~ broadcast is provided from a national broadcaster.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the ~~over-the-air~~ broadcast is provided from a broadcast affiliate.

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the electronic books are provided using a satellite broadcast, and wherein the satellite broadcast includes one or more of a direct to-home broadcast, a video network distribution broadcast, ~~a point-to-point broadcast, a point-to-multipoint broadcast,~~ a regional broadcast, and a forward communications service broadcast.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the ordering site includes one of a local cable system, a broadcast affiliate, a national broadcaster, ~~an Internet web site~~, an intranet site, an electronic book store and an electronic library.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the transmitter sends the electronic book selection to the local cable system, the local cable system returning the local authorization code.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the local authorization code is multiplexed with digital broadcast television program signals.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the transmitter sends the electronic book selection to the broadcast affiliate, the broadcast affiliate returning the local authorization code.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the local authorization code is multiplexed with digital broadcast television program signals.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the transmitter sends the program selection to the national broadcaster, the national broadcaster returning the local authorization code.

32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the local authorization code is multiplexed with digital broadcast television program signals.

33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the ordering site comprises an authorization system, the authorization system receiving the electronic book selection and generating an authorization signal, the authorization signal providing the local authorization code.

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the ordering site is colocated with of the local cable company, the broadcast affiliate and the national broadcaster.

35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the ordering site system includes a billing system, the billing system receiving the authorization signal and generating a billing record.

36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the billing record debits a subscriber's account.

37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the billing system sends the billing record to a subscriber for payment.

38. (Original) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the billing system charges a subscriber's credit card account.

39. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the ordering site ~~comprises an Internet web site, wherein the web site~~ includes an electronic book menu, ~~the web site~~ receives receiving the electronic book selection and receives the processor identification ~~generating the local authorization code.~~

40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the ordering site includes a billing system, the billing system receiving the local authorization code and generating a billing record.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,

wherein the local authorization code, comprises:

an identification code; and

an address; and

one or more electronic book identifiers, wherein the identification code uniquely identifies the apparatus receiving electronic book access authorization, the address identifies a location of the apparatus and routing instructions, and the one or more electronic book identifiers specify the electronic books that are authorized for decrypting.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;

a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;

a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and
a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,
wherein the electronic book selection comprises a subscription.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the subscription is for an electronic newspaper.

45. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the subscription is for an electronic magazine.

46. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the subscription is received at the apparatus periodically upon a log on of the apparatus.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus that provides electronic books to a subscriber, comprising:

a processor that communicates with an electronic book ordering site, the processor supplying an electronic book selection and a processor identification;
a transmitter, coupled to the processor, that sends the electronic book selection and the processor identification to the ordering site;
a receiver module that receives a data signal and a local authorization code, wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted electronic book selection and wherein the local authorization code allows the data signal to be decrypted for viewing; and

a memory coupled to the receiver module, the inventory storing the received authorization code until needed for decrypting the data signal,
wherein the data signal further comprises a menu of available electronic books.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the menu includes an electronic book abstract, author, cost and year of publication of an original hard copy text.

49. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the menu includes a review of the electronic book.

50. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the menu includes a hypertext link to a web site on an Internet.

51. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the menu includes submenus.

52. (Original) The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the submenus include an electronic book selection confirmation submenu.

53. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the menu is displayed on a web page of an Internet, the web page including a home page and additional pages, the home page and the additional pages accessible by operation of forward, back and home buttons.

54. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the menu is provided in a hard-copy format, the hard copy format including electronic book identifiers.

55. (Original) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein one or more of the electronic book identifiers are entered into the apparatus to send the electronic book selection.

56. (Original) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the electronic book identifiers are entered into the apparatus by operation of a remote control coupled to the apparatus.

57. (Original) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the electronic book identifiers are entered into the apparatus by operation of a soft key board displayed on a viewer.

58. (Original) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the electronic book identifiers are entered into the apparatus by operation of a key board coupled to a personal computer.

59. – 224. (Canceled)